CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A device for converting automation project data **in** ~~from~~ a proprietary **automation project data** format ~~for automation project data~~ to a format defined by a standardized meta format, said device comprising:

a conversion apparatus for converting the automation project data into a defined standardized meta data format **having a hierarchy of data comprising a plurality of folders wherein at least one of the plurality of folders containing exclusively links and at least one of the plurality of the plurality of folders contains exclusively data**;

means for providing the automation project data in the defined standardized meta data format for further processing; and

an export/import apparatus for importing and exporting the automation project data in different formats.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, further comprising a data storage apparatus for storing the automation project data in a defined format.

5. (Previously Presented) An engineering system comprising the device according to claim 1.

6-12. (Canceled)

13.   (Previously Presented)   A device according to Claim 1 wherein the standardized meta format comprises XML.